

## CSA Headstone Dedication Text

**ERNEST HEINZE (1831 - March 10, 1899)**

**Plot B-075**

Musician, 2nd Texas Infantry

Musician, 26th Texas Cavalry

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**Ernest Heinze** was born about 1831 in Hesse-Kassel and immigrated to Houston about 1852 with his parents and younger brothers William and Martin. A sister, Amelia, was born here about 1853. All three brothers were carpenters.

Ernst's brother Martin served for over three years in Company C, First Texas Heavy Artillery. When Major Kellersberg was upgrading the forts in Galveston in September 1862, he requested the transfer of 17 men from Company C to the Engineer Corps, listing them by name and specialty. Among them was "Martin Heinze, carpenter".

Ernst married Anna Margarethe Kreis in Houston on May 26, 1855, and by the end of 1861, they had two children.

On October 23, 1861, Ernest enlisted in Houston as a Musician in the Second Texas Infantry Regiment, for a period of six months. He was discharged June 7, 1862, at the expiration of his term of service, and returned to his family for several months.

On February 16, 1863, Ernest again enlisted in Houston, this time for the duration of the war, as a Musician in the Band of the 26th Texas Cavalry, under Colonel Xavier B. Debray. He spent a month in the hospital in Houston, from August 20 to September 22, 1863, suffering from a hernia. The 26th Texas Cavalry was stationed at Galveston until early in 1864, when it was sent to Louisiana to participate in the Red River Campaign. It's unclear whether Ernest took part in that, as the last card in his Compiled Service Record shows him present in February 1864.

Ernest returned home and resided on German Street (now Canal) near Buffalo (now St. Charles), where he lived for over 20 years. In addition to his day job as a carpenter, he played in a band from time to time. His obituary noted that he "was for many years one of the leading musicians of the City and the Musicians Union will ... attend the funeral in a body."

Ernest's wife Margarete died on March 1, 1888, and was buried in Magnolia Cemetery in a plot belonging to Louis Zorn. When Ernest died on March 12, 1899, his funeral was conducted by Rev. Wm. Buehrer, who was then pastor of Bear Creek Methodist Episcopal Church, some twenty miles west. Ernest was buried in a plot belonging to his son, Daniel Ernest Heinze.

Ernest's six children all married, giving him at least 32 grandchildren. There are at least three living great-grandchildren, and probably more that we have not yet contacted.